

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 8, 2009. Claims 19-24, 26-28, 30-31, and 33 have been allowed. Claims 14-18 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but are indicated as allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowed and allowable subject matter.

The rejection of claims 12 and 13 under 35 USC §102 based on U.S. Patent No. 5,882,206 (Gillo) was maintained. Although Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 12 and 13 in a continuing application, claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled. Claims 14 and 15, originally dependent from independent claim 12, have been rewritten in independent form to facilitate allowance.

Claims 16, 17, and 18 have been amended to adjust dependencies, but still recite the subject matter indicated as allowable. Additionally, these claims depend from allowable claim 15. Therefore, the Amendment does not introduce new issues requiring further consideration by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendment and remarks above, all pending claims should now be allowable and Applicants respectfully request the allowance of all claims. Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application, or to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Applicants enclose a fee for an additional independent claim, but no other fee is believed due with this response. If additional fees are due with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any refund to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,

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